A Second

LETTER

From The

AGITATORS

Of the Army, under the command of his Excellency, Sir

THOMAS FAIRFAX,

Sent unto all the Sea-men.

Published by the Order and speciall desire of the said Agitators.

LONDON,
Printed for *Ion Benson*, and are to be sold at his shop in Chancery Laine, neare the Roules. 1647.

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Of the Army, under the command of

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THOMAS FAIRFAX

Secretary of the Council.

Published by the Order and Speciall Desire of the

said Agitators.

LONDON,

Printed for Ian Bayly, and are to be sold at his

shop in Chancery Lane, over against Serjeants Inn.

A Second Letter from the Agitators of the Armie, under the Command of His Excellency Sir *Thomas Fairfax*, sent unto the Sea-men.

Honoured friends and fellow Soldiers.

COnsidering, that the transaction of the present affaires of our Army is now lookt upon as the wonder of the Kingdome, how ready the malice and envie of bitter Spirits are to vent false reports, and how prone to suggest evill intentions of us, we cannot but readily and really desire to acquaint you with the proceedings of this Army, which is now quartered at and neare St. *Albans*, expecting satisfaction in our humble desires of justice, without which this poore Kingdome will remaine most miserable, and for which we and your selves (sometimes with us) have passed through and indured great difficulties and hardships, in hopes at length we should injoy the fruits of our labour *viz.* the peace of this Nation, established in equity and justice, against which we cannot but sadly complaine) wee have found too many potent enemies, endeavouring not only to supplant us of our native rights, but also to tread

justice underfoot, as appears only of that unheard of Deportment towards our just Vindication, Petitions intended to our Generall, for which we were unjustly declared enemies, &c. and also towards the Petitions of sundry well affected persons to this Kingdome, (which in stead of reasonable answers) were burnt by the hand of the common Hang-man, the Petitioners themselves checked, and some of them imprisoned; which dealing of theirs, (carrying with it the face of Tyranny, injustice and oppression) if continued, will doubtlesse involve this poore Kingdome, in the saddest condition of slavery and ruin, as can be imagined; and further to strengthen their unjust designes against us, we are very sensible, no meanes is left unattempted, to blemish this Army with such scandalls and reproaches, as it hath little deserved, considering its diligent and faithfull service: whereof friends, in some measure ye have been eye witnesses, that so the Kingdom may be brought unworthily to resent our actions, and contemtibly to esteeme of us, and not only so, but likewise * to ingage this Kingdome in a new warre, by fomenting and increasing difference betwixt the Parliament and Army, whereby their own vile and guilty proceedings may be undiscovered, and themselves protected from iustice. Wherefore we shall desire you to consider with us, how unsafe and dangerous it will be, both to our selves and the Kingdome, if we shall be disbanded, when those who are such apparent and powerfull enemies, to this Kingdome, shall be left in a capacity to be our Iudges; and those who of late could not prevaile over us by force, shall be inabled to trample upon us by policy, endeavouring, even to the hazard of the Kingdome, to set the hearts and hands thereof against us. And to that end, we

are

* Their prevalency hath bin such, as to vote the house to vote the disbanding of this Army by peecemeale, without any reasonable satisfaction to our grievances which we presented to the Parliaments Commissioners in hopes of redresse, the effectuall event whereof, hath inforced us, to deny so, to be disbanded until our innocencie be vindicated, our just desires granted, peaceably established and we which is so inconsistent with some men ambitious and tirannicall principles, as that they attempt

are credibly informed, they have used meanes, to divert the forces, intended for *Ireland*, and to ingage them against this Army, so to prevent the stroke of justice upon themselves. And wee looking upon you as intended for that Kingdomes service, desire you may not be misinformed or misled, but rather then to be drawne away to such destructive purposes, yee will with us faithfully endeavour to recover the just rights and priveledges of freeborn English men, and joyne with us in the necessary prosecution of justice upon such as have been and are the apparent fomenters of these distractions, the usurpers of our rights and freedoms, and indeed, the manifest obstructors of the reliefe of *Ireland*.

We hope fellow Soldiers, that as we tooke up arms at first, for this Kingdoms good, and have injoyned in pursuance of the same, to the hazard of our owne, and the losse of many of our friends lives, so we shall singly seeke the same, and we doubt not but the integrities of our hearts herein will be manifested to you, as also to the Kingdom, who we have reason to beleeve, will own us in this necessary publique worke.

And that this may not seeme to your pretences, for any selfe ends in us, we refer you to the printed papers, herewith sent unto you, which will fully satisfie as to that particular, and that our cryes for justice are not frivolous, the impeachment of sundry members, in the House, is no small evidence.

As for the service of *Ireland*, though we feare it is made a cloak to cover the mysterious devices of some, yet we cannot but commend your forwardnesse to so necessary a worke, and we desire it more really and faithfully endeavoured, then so fervently, and we doubt, fraudelently,

onely, by some for their own ends, urged, and shall when we see no other ends aimed at, willingly ingage with you in that service, the desired harvest of our restlesse labours, for these five yeares past, being first attained, and we not unreasonably debarred that common right of Subjects, which by birth is ours, and now, if considered, doubly ours, both by birth and conquest. And although we find at present the nature of our former enemies appearing in another shape and posture, yet we rest upon God, as formerly, for his assistance, in bringing these incendiaries to justice, and perfecting a safe and well grounded peace, in prosecution of which worke, we dare be confident, we shall not find you our enemies, but rather our assisting friends, especially if once you shall discover any such designe, as to withdraw you from the service of *Ireland*, to partake with such as indeed, are neither ours, yours, or the Kingdomes friends, so to make you a Bulwarke of defence to themselves, and offence to justice, which upon serious consideration, you cannot but disclaime and abhorre. Thus much we have thought good to impart unto you, as fellow Soldiers, and sometimes fellow fighters with us, for this Kingdoms good, that you might be informed of the truth, and not misled or seduced to the prejudice either of us, your selves, or the kingdome, by the subtle contrivance of any whatsoever. And so hoping you will stand in a right and true apprehension of us and our proceedings, we leave you to the direction of God, and bid you heartily farewell: subscribing our selves.

Your and the Kingdoms faithfull friends and servants, agitating in the behalfe of the Army.

Lewes Audly.	Edmon Rolphe.
Iohn Clerke.	Alex. Brasield.
Iohn Carter.	Azariah Husbands.

Iohn Nuſon Edm. Vaughan. William Allen.	Gen. Foot Regiment.
Nath. Foxgill. Will. Bridgeman.	Lieutenant Generals Regiment.
Henry Anderton.	Collonel Hammons Regiment.
Robert Maſon. Iohn Millar.	Collonell Wallers Regiment.
Richard Colbrand.	
Will. Swallow.	Collonel Lamberts Regiment.
Herbert Feild.	
Barth. Willock.	Collonel Lilburns Regiment.
Richard Clarke.	
Edmund Garne.	Collonel Thomlinſons Regiment.
Dan. Hincksman.	
Nico. Andrews.	Collonell Hewſons Regiment.
Ralph Rentis.	
	Collonel Readi Regiment.

Edward Senby.	Gen. Reg.	Nich. Lechier.
Tho. Moore		Joſeph Foster. Rich.
Samuel Whiting.	Lieu. Gen.	Hen. Oestbings.
Will. Aalkin.		Edw. Stavre, Sheffield.
Anthony Nicols,	Com. Gen.	Tho Kendall.
Tho. Sharpe.		John Thomas. Whally.
Will. Iones.	Fleetwood.	Elias Pow.
Iohn Caſby.		John Willowby. Bayley.

FINIS.